Evacuation Request Procedures

Introduction

- Evacuation begins when medical personnel receive injured or ill soldiers and continues as far rearward as the patient's medical condition warrants or the military situation requires
- Procedures for requesting medical evacuation support must be institutionalized down to the unit level
- The same format used to request aeromedical evacuation is also used for requesting ground evacuation
- Procedural guidance and standardization of request procedures

Medical Evacuation & Assignment of Medical Evacuation Precedence

- Determination to request evacuation and precedence is made by the senior military person present
- Decision based on advice of the senior medical person at the scene
- Assignment of a medical evacuation precedence is necessary

Medical Evacuation & Assignment of Medical Evacuation Precedence

- The precedence assigned to the casualty(ies) provides the supporting medical unit and controlling headquarters
  - Priorities for committing their evacuation assets
  - Validated information in controlling the flow

Medical Evacuation & Assignment of Medical Evacuation Precedence

- Overclassification remains a continuing problem
  - Patients will be picked up as soon as possible, when properly classified
  - Pick up consistent with available resources and pending missions
  - Casualties in greatest need evacuated first and receive necessary care required to help ensure their survival

Precedence and the Criteria

- Priority I - Urgent
- Priority IA - Urgent-Surgical
- Priority II - Priority
- Priority III - Routine
- Priority IV - Convenience

Unit Responsibilities

- Unit requesting evacuation prepares for and assist's during evacuation
  - Ensuring safe and successful evacuation
  - English-speaking representative at the pickup site
  - Ensuring casualty(ies) are ready for pickup
  - Move patients to safest aircraft approach/departure point
  - Receiving backhauled medical supplies
  - Familiar with principles of helicopter operations

Unit Responsibilities

- Units must
  - Select and prepare the landing site
  - Commands regarding approach loading and unloading from the pilot and crew chief
  - Brief pilot on the position of enemy troops
  - Qualified soldier guides the helicopter in the landing site
  - Mark friendly positions when armed helicopter escort is provided

Location of Pickup Site

- (Line 1)
  - Not necessary to encrypt grid coordinates when using secure communications equipment or channel skipping equipment
  - Preclude misunderstanding, state that grid zone letters are included in the message
  - Obtain grid coordinates of the pickup site from the grid map of the operational area

Radio Frequency, Call Sign, and Suffix

- (Line 2)
  - Send frequency of the radio at the pickup site, not a relay frequency
  - Call signs (and suffix if used) on the person to be contacted at the pickup site may be transmitted in the clear
  - Obtain radio frequency, call sign, and suffix of signal operation instructions from Signal Operating Instruction (SOI), or the Automated Net Control Device (ANCD) or radio supervisor

Number of Patients by Precedence

- (Line 3) - report only applicable information and use the appropriate amount(s) and brevity code(s)
  - **A** - URGENT Complete
  - **B** - URGENT SURGICAL
  - **C** - PRIORITY
  - **D** - ROUTINE
  - **E** - CONVENIENCE

Special Equipment Required

- (Line 4) - types of equipment and their brevity codes
  - **A** - None
  - **B** - Hoist
  - **C** - Extraction equipment
  - **D** - Ventilator

Number of Patients by Type

- (Line 5) - report only applicable information
- If requesting MEDEVAC for both types, insert the word "Break" between the litter entry and ambulatory entry
  - **L** - (Litter) plus the number of patients
  - **A** - (Ambulatory [sitting]) plus the number of patients

Security of Pickup Site (Wartime)

- (Line 6) - this information is used during wartime
  - **N** - No enemy troops in the area
  - **P** - Possibly enemy troops in the area (approach with caution)
  - **E** - Enemy troops in the area (approach with caution)
  - **X** - Enemy troops in the area (armed escort required)

Method of Marking Pickup Site

- (Line 7)
  - **A** - Panels
  - **B** - Pyrotechnic signal
  - **C** - Smoke signal
  - **D** - None
  - **E** - Other

Patient Nationality and Status

- (Line 8)
  - **A** - U.S. military
  - **B** - U.S. civilian
  - **C** - Non-U.S. military
  - **D** - Non-U.S. civilian
  - **E** - Enemy Prisoner of War (EPW)

NBC Contamination (Wartime)

- (Line 9)
  - **N** - Nuclear
  - **B** - Biological
  - **C** - Chemical

Prepare a Medical Evacuation Request

- During wartime, brevity codes must be used
  - Use brevity codes listed in FM 8-10-6, Evacuation Request Procedures
  - Locally devised codes are authorized
  - Unit preparing the request does not have access to secure communications the medical evacuation request must be encrypted

Prepare a Medical Evacuation Request

- Information on the form must be encrypted except:
  - Medical evacuation line number identifier
  - Call sign and suffix (Line 2) which can be transmitted in clear text During peacetime, two line number items (Lines 6 and 9) will change
- More detailed procedures for use of the peacetime request

Radio Communications

- Transmission Security
- No transmission will be made if it is not authorized by the proper authority

Prepare a Medical Evacuation Request

- Following practices are specifically forbidden
  - Violation of radio silence
  - Unofficial conversation
  - Transmission on a directed net without permission
  - Excessive tuning and testing
  - Transmission of the operator's personal sign or name
  - Unauthorized use of plain language
  - Use of other than authorized PROWORDs
  - Unauthorized use of plain language
  - Association of classified call signs and address groups with unclassified call signs
  - Profane, indecent, or obscene language

Call Signs

- Two forms of call signs
  - Complete call signs
  - Abbreviated call signs
- Complete call signs consist of a letter - number - letter combination and a suffix

Letters

- Special techniques have been developed for pronouncing letters and numerals
- Phonetic alphabet and phonetic numerals
- Phonetic alphabet is also used for the transmission of encrypted messages

Numbers

- Spoken digit by digit, except that exact multiples of thousands
- Date-time group is always spoken digit by digit, followed by the time zone indication
- Map coordinates and call sign suffixes also are spoken digit by digit

Types of Medical Evacuation Request Formats & Procedures

- The medical evacuation request is used for requesting evacuation support from
  - Air ambulances
  - Ground ambulances
- Two established medical evacuation request formats
  - Wartime
  - Peacetime

War and Peace Request

- Differences in security between wartime and peacetime in requesting procedures
  - Under all nonwar conditions, the safety of US military and civilian personnel outweighs the need for security
  - During wartime, the rapid evacuation of patients must be weighed against the importance of unit survivability

Transmit the Request

- Made by the most direct communications means to the medical unit
- Communications means and channels used depend on the situation
- Primary and alternate channels to be used are specified in the unit evacuation plan

Transmit the Request

- Security transmissions
  - Under all wartime conditions, these requests are transmitted by SECURE MEANS only
  - Nonsecure communications dictates that the request be transmitted in ENCRYPTED FORM
  - Regardless of the type (secure or nonsecure) of communications equipment used in transmission

Transmit the Request

- Receiver Acknowledgement - after the appropriate opening statement is made, the transmitting operator
  - Breaks for acknowledgment
  - Authentication by the receiving or transmitting unit should be done in accordance with the TSOP

Transmit the Request

- Clear Text and Encrypted Transmissions
  - If secure communications equipment is used in transmission
- Letter and Numeral Pronunciation
  - Letters and numbers pronounced according to standard radio procedure
  - Give Line Number Identifier followed by applicable information

Transmit the Request

- Medical Evacuation Request Line Numbers 1 - 5
  - Line numbers 1 – 5 must be transmitted first
  - Allows evacuation unit to begin mission without delay
  - Lines 6 – 9 should be transmitted as soon as possible
- Monitoring requirements
  - After transmission and authentication monitor frequency
  - Wait for additional information
  - Relay contact information from evacuation vehicles

Relay Requests

- Transmit in encrypted form
- Regardless of method of transmission, must ensure relay is the exact information originally received
- Transmit by secure means
- Radio call sign and frequency relayed (Line 2 of the request) should be that of the requesting unit and not that of the relaying unit
- Intermediate headquarters or units relaying requests will monitor the frequency specified in Line 2

Summary

- Identified the procedures for requesting medical evacuation support
- Same format used to request aeromedical evacuation is also used for requesting ground evacuation
- Procedural guidance and standardization of request procedures and should now be able to apply the knowledge in the field